

MORE TOWNS RUINED

OAKLAND, April 19, 9 p. m.—Reports from Coast towns appal the stoutest hearts. Healdsburg, Ukiah, Shafter and Gaysville are reported as being wiped out with terrible loss of life. Santa Rosa is burning. The report that San Jose was burned is contradicted. The loss of life there is not over ten.

Los Angeles Threatened

A wire from Los Angeles indicates that the city was in the throes of a shock with the buildings shaking. The message then stopped suddenly and it is feared that it has also been visited by a severe shock.

No Throughfare

Many train loads of people have started to come to San Francisco but they are not allowed to reach the city. No boats are allowed to bring any one to the City from Oakland. The Tomopah special which started for San Francisco has been halted at Oakland.

The Last Hope Gone

When the last resort failed to quell the flames all hope of saving the city was abandoned and the flames are now completing the work of destruction. At the present writing the pall of smoke hanging over the city is lit up with a grander spectacle of fire than has yet been witnessed and there now seems no hope what ever of saving the best residence part of the city. By morning the entire Western Addition will have become a heap of ashes.

The Banks Close For Ten Days

The Bankers and Brokers realizing the full extent of the calamity met and decided that there should be no runs on the banks. They closed the banks and sent for troops to guard them. Nothing will be transacted in the way of business for ten days. The securities and money are in the vaults.

Telegrams Received

Yesterday a number of telegrams from Carson people located in San Francisco were received. Harry Edwards received word from his father that he and his wife were safe. Chas. Cuts, received a wire that his mother and relatives were out of harm's way at Santa Cruise. Mr. DeJarlais last evening received a wire that his folks were in Oakland having escaped from the burning district. A number of others also received assuring messages. So far no one from this city has been numbered among the lost. Senator Rickey and wife are expected home this morning and probably others will be with them. Word was received from Frank Evans that he and his wife were safe.

More Donations

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20, 1 a. m.—Donations continue to come in. Money is being subscribed in every quarter of the Union. The New York Stock Exchange subscribed \$500,000 in a ten minutes session. Sacramento raised \$20,000, Portland, \$100,000, Los Angeles, \$50,000 and Chicago will raise a million to aid the sufferers. Provisions will be hurried in by the train load, as all of the railroads have offered free transportation for bread stuffs and meats. A train load of bread has left Southern California for the scene. It is believed that by tonight the sufferers will be provided for as far as hunger is concerned.

Los Angeles Is Safe

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20, 4 p. m.—The report that Los Angeles was destroyed by fire and earthquake is an exaggeration. This city suffered a slight earthquake but no damage was done. The experience of San Francisco set the people wild for the time being but the shock was mild and no one injured and no property has been destroyed. Los Angeles will lend a great deal of financial assistance to the suffering cities North.

It was predicted

On the first day of last January the San Francisco Examiner printed a page of predictions for 1906 by a man in New York. Among other things he stated that San Francisco and several towns on the Pacific Coast would be destroyed by earthquake and fire in April of this year.

Personal Observation

Returning Carsonites Tell of Their Escape From the City of Ruin

A telegram was received early yesterday morning stating that A. M. Ardrey his wife and E. P. Esser would return from the stricken city on the morning train. A crowd of friends were on hand to meet them not alone from the fact that they had witnessed the calamity of the century, but were there to welcome them to their homes of safety.

Mr. Ardrey's Experience

Last evening the Appeal had an interview with Mr. Ardrey. His description of the terrible conditions and the effect of the earthquake are almost beyond description. He stated: "My wife and I had rooms at the Palace and did not go to the theatre the evening before. We spent the evening in the beautiful court of the famous hotel and retired to our rooms late in the evening. We were awakened by the most horrible shaking and twisting of the building. The shock seemed to be across the building and then there would be a twisting, this was followed by what appeared to be a throwing of the massive structure such as the snapping of whip. Plaster fell, small and loose objects were thrown to the floor, and the crumbling and crashing of heavy beams could have been heard for blocks. The horrible noise of crashing buildings came like the boom of thunder. My wife left the bed and stood under the door way, and I joined her there. I spoke to her as the lights were going out and stated that there was no use rushing out and if we were to die we would be found together. As soon as the quaking ceased we dressed and made our way to the court. There men and women were rushing frantically about, some being carried and hysterical. We returned to the room and packed our belongings, as the bell boy cried out that the hotel was safe, and while it was terribly injured and sprung yet it lived through the shock.

After returning from the room we went into the court dining room and there found one lone waiter, he was the coolest man in house. He took our order for coffee and rolls and others seeing our action followed, and this one hero waited on at least a hundred people. After this light breakfast we started up Montgomery street, as several fires had sprung up and down Market street. We walked along and meeting a policeman we enquired if we could get to the ferry. This was done by going as far as Broadway and working down the warves to the ferry building. On the way down there was wreckage in every street. Dead horses from the

early market men who filled the streets where the building had crushed them. In places the cement sidewalks had sunk other places pileings were pushed up through the street, and masses of brick and stone blocked the way of the unhurrying engines and fireman.

By the time we reached the ferry, which was at 8 o'clock there were at least forty fires. In reaching the boat it was necessary to guard ones face from the flames and the excitement was so intense that it was every man or woman for themselves. We spent the day in Oakland and could hear the blasting of buildings. I intended to return and secure my baggage when I left in the morning, but was only too thankful to get out with our lives. Our belongings are in the ashes of the Palace. Mrs. Ardrey and myself have had an experience that will never be blotted out. It is beyond description and half of the terror and disaster will never be told.

Mr. Essers Experience

Mr. E. P. Esser was also an arrival from the wrecked city. He had his room at the Grand Hotel and was awakened by the terrible noise and movement of the earthquake. In his room the ceiling or a portion of it fell, the electric fixtures were thrown to the floor and a bureau in the room was turned over. He immediately dressed and packed his dress suit case. By the time he had reached Market street people were rushing in every direction. One woman he noted in particular, she was dressed in a night gown and carried a potted plant, the streets were filled with half dressed men women and children all looking for a chance to escape.

It was his intention to return to the hotel and get his valise, but upon viewing the damage and seeing the fire, he made his way to the ferry building without venturing back up the street. He was among the first at the fire which started near the ferry building. This was a furnace in a few minutes and almost barred the progress of those going to the ferry. Mr. Esser took the 6 o'clock boat for Oakland, where he spent the day. On the way across the bay he counted over twenty fires which started before he had reached the Oakland side. The view of the burning city from the Oakland side was beyond description and in spite of the awful terror that it was spreading yet it inspired a curiosity that impelled him with hundreds of others to watch from the safe distance across the bay.

The Flames Win

Western Edition at the Mercy of the Fires Efforts Useless

Flames Sweep West

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20, 4 p. m.—The efforts of the fireman and the militia to stop the onward march of the ever growing fire by blowing up the residential portion of the city at Van Ness Avenue has failed. The flames have crossed the park and are now devastating the Western section of this city. The city is doomed as far as the Park. A strong trade wind has carried the flames to the West which has renewed the activity of the smoldering fires. The fire department is almost useless, as many of the engines are crippled and the water supply is simply exhausted. It looks like a case of total destruction from one end of the city to the other. The authorities are helpless and the fight is about over as the men are worn out and there is no chance for food or rest. The city is at the mercy of the flames.

Tented Cities

The Presidio, the Richmond District and Golden Gate Park, resemble a vast picnic grounds. Thousands upon thousands of tents have been pitched. Fire places and cooking utensils have been provided and a multitude is camping in the famous play ground of this once prosperous city. Food is the only thing that is necessary to provide better comfort and prevent want.

Appalling Life Loss

OAKLAND, April 20, 4 p. m.—It is the general belief that the death list of San Francisco will reach ten thousand. People returning from the burning district state that the dead fill every available place and that there is no account for hundreds who are missing.

Unknown dead are piled out of the way of the flames and most of them are so badly disfigured that identification is impossible. A list of the dead is being prepared which is expected will be given out today, or as soon as the authorities can get to this detail. Every district has a morgue of its own.

Wires Kill Many

Investigation in the case of many deaths reveal the fact that the electric wires killed many who were found on the street. It is also the belief that the wires were the cause of much of the spreading of fire. In Oakland all gas and electric service is forbidden until the town can be officially inspected.

No Tickets Sold

The railroad companies announced last night that no tickets to San Francisco would be sold at any price. The ticket agents and the conductors have been notified to take no passengers toward the stricken city. There is no room for the curious or the morbidly hence all will be turned away.

AT THE FLAMES MERCY

Awful Condition

SAN FRANCISCO, April 20, 1 a. m.—The full extent of the terrible catastrophe at San Francisco may never be known. The entire business center of the city is a mass of smoldering ruins. Thieves are at work in the devastated districts but the military patrol men in obedience to their orders do not hesitate shooting down without warning the ghouls. Six characters of this sort have been shot in the streets today. The saloons throughout the city have been ordered closed by Chief Dinan.

The Mechanics pavilion which on yesterday was used as a temporary morgue was destroyed this afternoon by the raging fire. The Chronicle building which was believed last night to have been saved is a mass of ruins.

There is no pen that can describe the scene of disaster. What made San Francisco famous is only a heap of smoldering ruins. Its magnificent buildings and Market street and the throngs of people are no more.

Its inhabitants are fleeing from it as though from a pestilence thousands take the ferries at every trip. Every boat no matter in what direction, is loaded to the guards with weeping people with no particular destination.

Only a desire to leave the doomed city is their view. The scene beggars description. The only thoroughfare now leading to the ferry are thronged with rich and poor, old and young, with a few worldly possessions bedding and odd packages, crowding and shoving to reach the ferry boats with only the one hope and idea of getting away.

The pen of Hugo or Tolstol, would be unequal to giving any adequate ideas of the scene. The Insurance Companies loss will exceed the losses of the Chicago fire and the fire still rages.

With ferocity and the entire Western addition is threatened.

A final stand is being made at Van Ness avenue with little hope. One old grizzled engineer standing by his fire engine at 8 o'clock last evening was asked what he proposed to do. He replied, "We are waiting for it to come, when it gets here we will make one more stand, if it drives us out the city is gone."

Graphic Description

RENO, April 19, 11 a. m.—Train no. 4 just arrived with many passengers. All say that the reports do not half tell of devastation. One man stood on the car steps while the train was held at Reno and told the large crowd assembled at the depot many particulars concerning the scene he said that not a land mark remains on Market street from the ferry to 29th street that could be identified by any one who had ever seen San Francisco.

That from Market street south was a desert of toppling and shapeless walls. The Mills building and other buildings on Montgomery, the main portion of Kearney St., Grant avenue, the Chinese district, Ellis St., O'Farrell, Sutter, Bush, part of California and Sacramento in a diagonal direction west of Van Ness avenue.

The gentlemen said he was up most of the night the only rest he took was for a short period on a bench in a public park. When he started for the ferry this morning, he walked clear around China town to Pacific avenue thence to east stand to the ferry. He stated that people were carrying their scanty belongings and dragging trunks and valises, crying and pleading for aid and sympathy. Infact the situation is terrible and no one can conceive of the horror of it unless he witnesses it.

The greatest horror is the lack of water to drink and food. This man paid one dollar for a loaf of bread for his breakfast, fifty cents for a five cent can of deviled ham and fifty cents for a small bottle of wine as it was impossible to get water to drink.

More Troops Called For

This afternoon the Seventh regiment of Militia stationed at Los Angeles were ordered to San Francisco. The Pacific Squadron is expected to arrive tonight.

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